

The Hilo Tribune.

FRIDAY, - MARCH 14, 1902.

Entered at the Postoffice at Hilo, Hawaii, as second-class matter.

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY.

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HAWAII'S JUDICIARY.

The editor of the Independent at Honolulu sheds tears because there are a few American judges on the bench in Hawaii. That paper finds fault with the only article in Hawaii which bears the true American stamp. The Independent says: "Jurists they may all be and understand American justice and jurisprudence, but from what we have so far seen of them, they are not at all satisfactory in our way of thinking."

"Our way of thinking" is of course another way of saying that judges are wanted who will not give a square deal in all matters that come up before them. Hawaii does not want jurists on the bench or men who understand American justice and jurisprudence. Legal learning and uprightness are also qualifications which impede the wheels of justice. It was unfortunate that McKinley and Roosevelt felt that an appointee to the bench in Hawaii ought to be something of a lawyer, and in a measure acquainted with the laws and the spirit of the Courts of the United States. It was in fact an insult to the Dole Government and the old regime, for an American President to remodel the fountains of justice in Hawaii by appointing judges with brains and legal knowledge.

The old Hawaiian system of appointing law clerks to the Supreme and Circuit benches was far more satisfactory to the old lawyers and to clients who owned shares in the Court.

An independent, upright judiciary is the greatest curse that comes to any country.

KONA'S BRIGHT OUTLOOK.

The reported success of Mr. Coerper in promptly obtaining the funds for the Kona-Kau railroad is a most gratifying rift in the clouds hanging over the progress of the Kona district and means as well a great deal for the progress of the Territory at large.

The success of this railroad project means the opening to settlers of a district that has practically remained undeveloped, but which offers some of the best home sites to be found in the Territory. Furthermore, it is the aim of the railroad company to aid especially in the promotion of diversified industry as it is believed the small farmers will be the best feeders of the line, and will, by virtue of superior transportation facilities, be able to cultivate agricultural products other than sugar at a profit. At the same time the road is certain to give new strength to the sugar enterprises already in operation and assist in solving many of the difficulties under which the district has labored.

These Islands can easily produce all the vegetables and fruits needed to supply the local market. All that is necessary is cheap transportation and the men to cultivate the fields. Both these essentials are promised by the Kona railway enterprise as it is the plan of the promoters to solicit for the immigration of American farmers to the district, following out as far as possible the scheme of the great continental railways.

There is every reason to believe the new railway will be the nucleus for the rebuilding of just such a farmer community as has long been sought, but has thus far got no further than the theoretical stage. When American capitalists are ready to invest their money in such an enterprise there is every reason why it should receive all the local moral and financial assistance it is within the power of our citizens and the Territorial government to give.—Evening Bulletin.

NEXT week will be the Elk week in Hilo. A crowd of thirty-five from Honolulu, headed by District Deputy Grand Ruler, Dr. C. B. Cooper is coming. They come to establish a Hilo lodge, which will start with over fifty members.

Arrangements are being made to properly entertain the visiting Elks. Demosthenes has been asked to prepare a banquet. There are no strings to the orders given and the feast, it is said, will eclipse anything yet given in Hilo.

PUNA WATER.

Shipment of 6,000 Gallons for Bottling at Honolulu.

H. L. Williams, the promoter of the Puna sisal and Volcano Mineral water enterprises arrived in Hilo by the Kinau this week with enough barrels to carry back to Honolulu 6,000 gallons of the life giving fluid which for ages has percolated through the volcanic soil of Puna and wasted itself in the sea. The famous warm spring in Puna, hitherto known only to the bathers who found rare virtues in their translucent depths, will furnish a new export commodity for the Hawaiian Islands.

Commercially, the warm waters from Puna will be known as "Kawaiakakua Volcano Water." It will go into the marts of trade, a fierce competitor to "Shasta" and "Sauer brun." Big houses in New York and other eastern cities have placed large orders and the Kinau will carry it to Honolulu by the hogshead, where it will be bottled for transmission to the Continent.

Mr. Williams was formerly a Colorado mining man, and in that country learned a great deal about the mysterious properties of mineral waters both hot and cold. He came over to Puna some time ago on a sisal proposition and incidentally learned of the well known springs. He scented a bonanza. He secured a thirty year lease on 700 acres of good sisal land and managed to include within the boundaries of the tract, the Volcanic springs. He enlisted in the scheme the cooperation of Cecil Brown, prominent financier of Honolulu and F. M. Hankey, a leading attorney in the same city. They formed a company. They have had their labels printed. The label shows the Volcano Kilauea in full action, the red cascade of molten lava, appearing in striking contrast to the cerulean blue of a perfect Hawaiian sky in the background. The company will have the distinction of putting on the market the only Volcano water in the world and the only mineral water from the Hawaiian Islands.

The output for the Honolulu trade will be shipped to Honolulu in barrels and bottled at the same place. All that is required for the export trade will be bottled in Hilo and shipped direct to San Francisco, New York or other cities from Hilo. The Hilo plant will be in operation within three months. Analyses of the water made by the Government chemist show the presence of a number of chemical properties of high medicinal value. The most conspicuous and active elements are chlorine salts and sulphuric acid. Silica and magnesia are also present. The Company will place their product throughout the world and the promoters believe that the Puna springs will ere long be as wide famed as Hawaii itself.

Mrs. Eugene Field Coming.

San Francisco, Feb. 27.—Mrs. Julia S. Field, widow of Eugene Field, is making a short visit in Alameda with the family of Henry K. Field, cousin of the Western poet. She is en route to Honolulu for a pleasure trip and sails tomorrow. Since the death of her husband Mrs. Field has been living with her family in Chicago. The marriage of her eldest daughter and the absence of the other children at school gives her the opportunity for travel. She sails this afternoon for the Islands in company with a party of Chicago friends, and will spend about three months in the South Seas. She leaves her two eldest sons in school in Chicago, and two other children in a school in Maryland. This is

her first visit to the Coast; when Eugene Field was here in 1894, the year before his death, he came alone.

Mrs. Field is known to the admirers of the most original and best-loved of all Western writers as the heroine of his impetuous early wooing, the keeper of the family purse upon which he made such reckless assaults, and the inspirer of some of his best and sweetest verse. She was, before her marriage, Miss Julia Sutherland Comstock of St. Joseph, Mo. Eugene Field met her when she was 16 years old, and when he was still little more than a boy. This was just before he started on his famous six months' tour of Europe. Upon his return he married her, in spite of strong objections made upon the score of her youth and his own improvidence.

Hugo's Birthday.

Paris, Feb. 26.—The series of festivities to celebrate the centenary of the birth of Victor Hugo, which will last until Sunday next, opened this morning with a grand ceremony within the Pantheon, under the auspices of the Government. President Loubet, M. Waldeck-Rousseau, the Premier, and the other members of the Cabinet, the members of the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies were present. President Loubet was warmly cheered along the route as he drove to the Pantheon escorted by a squadron of cuirassiers.

The President and the Cabinet Ministers took their seats in the official tribune erected in the Pantheon, while in the transept beneath the dome were two other tribunes, one to the right reserved for Mme. Loubet and the wives of the Ministers, and the other to the left for the members of Victor Hugo's family. The United States Ambassador, General Porter, sat in the front row of seats set aside for the diplomatic corps.

Lukban of Samar Caught.

Manila, Feb. 26.—General Smith, in command of the United States troops on the island of Samar, cables that Lieutenant Stribler's scouts have captured Lukban, the notorious leader of the Samar rebels, and brought him to Laguan, capital of a small island of that name north of and adjoining Samar.

Washington, Feb. 26.—General Chaffee today notified the War Department that Lieutenant Stribler of the Philippine Scouts captured General Lukban on the 22d inst. The prisoner is confined at Laguan.

Another capture is recorded in the same dispatch, namely that of William Dunston, said to be a deserter from Company C, Eighth Infantry, who had in his possession a lot of arms and ammunition and all of the tools necessary for the making of ammunition. He was captured by Second Lieutenant Pratt, First Infantry, at Caghaian, on the island of Samar. The lieutenant also destroyed the cartel and the factory and killed eleven soldiers, besides capturing all of Dunston's correspondence.

Cuban Reciprocity.

Washington, Feb. 22.—The Republican members of the Ways and Means Committee, who have been considering the questions of concessions to Cuba at several meetings during the week, finally reached an agreement this afternoon which is considered a victory for those who have favored tariff concessions to that island. The action taken was the adoption of a resolution authorizing the President to negotiate a reciprocity treaty with the Cuban republic when established embracing equivalent concessions, the tariff on Cuban products to be cut down 20 per cent and Cuba to enact our immigration laws.

By the terms of the resolution, the proposition agreed on by the Republican members of the committee will be submitted to a Republican caucus to be held next Tuesday.

Architect Riehley has just finished the construction of a new warehouse for the Hilo Railroad at Waikaka. The new structure is 40x100 feet and was built for the purpose of storing sugar from the Olau mills.

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